



www.mass.gov/rmv

## Request for Vanity Plates

Registry of Motor Vehicles  
P.O. Box 199100  
Boston, MA 02119-9100  
Attn: Special Plates

### Customer Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Driver's Lic #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Vanity Plate Requirements:

1. All vanity plates must start with at least two letters.
2. Passenger, Auto Home, Livery, Bus, and Commercial vanity plates may contain a maximum of six characters (letters or numbers) and a minimum of two characters. Vanity plates for antique vehicles may contain a maximum of four characters and a minimum of two characters. Motorcycle vanity plates may contain a maximum of five characters and a minimum of two characters.
3. Numbers cannot be used in the middle of a plate; they must come at the end. For example, AAA222 would be an acceptable Passenger vanity plate; AAA22A would not be acceptable.
4. The letters "I," "O," "Q," and "U" can ONLY be used as part of a clearly defined word.
5. No periods, spaces, or punctuation marks are allowed.
6. Letter and/or number combinations that convey an offensive message or appear to duplicate an existing registration plate are not permitted (see reverse side for criteria).

### Plate Type (Please check the box of the plate type you are applying for):

- |                                           |                                            |                                           |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Antique Vanity   | <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Vanity | <input type="checkbox"/> Passenger Vanity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Auto Home Vanity | <input type="checkbox"/> Livery Vanity     |                                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bus Vanity       | <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycle Vanity |                                           |

### Plate Request (You will be required to explain any foreign language word or other obscure request):

\_\_\_\_\_  
1st Choice

\_\_\_\_\_  
2nd Choice

\_\_\_\_\_  
3rd Choice

Ship Plate To (Full-Service RMV Branch Location): \_\_\_\_\_

I request that number plates displaying the registration number (in order of preference shown above) be manufactured for assignment to a vehicle owned, co-owned, or leased by me. I also understand that the vanity plates applied for will be issued only after approval by the Registrar. Should the Registrar find that the vanity plate is or may be offensive, the RMV will try to reasonably work with the applicant to find a replacement plate. Each registration issued by the Registrar remains the property of the Registrar (540 CMR 2.05 (4)(q)).

**The Registrar reserves the right to deny or revoke a vanity plate at any time.**

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail the completed application to the above mailing address or bring it to the nearest RMV branch. If you send this application by mail, include a \$50 check payable to the RMV. If you bring this to a branch, you may pay by cash, check, or money order.

You will be notified by mail when your vanity plate request is approved or denied. It will take between 12-14 weeks for your application to be approved, the plates to be manufactured, and you to be notified that they are at the branch you requested.

**Registry Use Only:** RMV Batch No. \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_

## **Plate Criteria:**

1. The Registrar will not knowingly issue a requested Vanity registration plate containing a group of letters or combination of numbers and letters if the plate is either offensive or duplicative of an existing registration. Specifically, the Registrar will not issue a requested combination of letters and numbers or letters alone if:

- ◆ Such combination is vulgar in that it is in poor taste or is degrading or is considered a profanity, including a swear or curse word, not usually displayed in the community for general viewing
- ◆ Such combination is derogatory in that it disparages or belittles someone or something
- ◆ Such combination is obscene in that it refers to a sexual body part, a term for or most closely associated with a sex act, or the availability for sex
- ◆ Such combination is an expression of contempt, ridicule, or superiority of a race, religion, deity, ethnic heritage, gender, sexual orientation, or political affiliation
- ◆ Such combination is an expression of “fighting words” designed to inflame passions and possibly lead to a violent confrontation
- ◆ Such combination would appear to duplicate a registration already issued

2. The Registrar may reject a requested combination for other reasons if she reasonably determines that issuance of the requested combination would be inappropriate as a state-issued registration plate.

3. It is irrelevant whether offensive material is communicated when reading the vanity plate from left-to-right or from right-to-left, when viewed through a rear view mirror, or whether it is in a foreign language or in a code which only a small segment of the community may be able to readily decipher.

4. The Registrar reserves the right to recall a vanity plate that has been issued, even if such registration and plate has been renewed. Once the Registrar becomes aware of the offensive nature of a group of letters or combination of numbers and letters, or a plate that appears to duplicate an existing registration, that is sufficient cause for rejection or recall.